

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 067315

EXDIS

E.O. 11652;GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, B, UK, GW, US, UR, FR, GE

SUBJECT: FRENCH VIEWS ON RECENT GDR ACTIONS AFFECTING
BERLIN

REF: BONN 5068

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1. DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THERE IS SOME UTILITY IN TAKING
STEPS ON A LATERAL BASIS WITH THE GDR TO INDICATE THAT THE
LATTER'S ACTIONS IN BERLIN CAN AND DO HAVE AN IMPACT
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ON BILATERAL RELATIONS. THUS, WE AGREE WITH THE
POSTPONEMENT OF HIGHLY VISIBLE POLITICAL VISITS SUCH AS
DE GUIRINGAUD'S WOULD BE A VERY CLEAR SIGNAL WHICH THE
GDR MUST TAKE INTO ACCOUNT WHEN CONSIDERING ITS BERLIN
MOVES. FOR OUR PART WE HAVE ALREADY TOLD THE GDR THAT
A VISIT TO EAST BERLIN BY A SENIOR DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL
WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE AT THIS JUNCTURE.

WE HAVE ALSO REFUSED FOR THE TIME BEING TO ISSUE VISAS TO GDR TECHNICAL PERSONNEL WHO WOULD RESIDE IN THE US, LINKING THIS QUITE FRANKLY TO OUR DISPLEASURE OVER GDR ACTIONS IN BERLIN. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT THINK THAT A GENERAL FREEZE IN BILATERAL RELATIONS, COORDINATED WITH THE FRENCH AND BRITISH, WOULD SERVE WESTERN INTERESTS WELL IN THE LONG RUN. THE MAIN PROBLEM IN SUCH AN APPROACH WOULD BE THE DIFFICULTY IN MAINTAINING A UNITED FRONT VIS-A-VIS THE GDR BECAUSE PAROCHIAL INTERESTS WOULD TEND TO PREVAIL IN SO MANY CASES THAT THE OVERALL EFFECT WOULD BE BLURRED BEYOND DISTINCTION. THEREFORE, WE FEEL THAT DELIBERATE STEPS AIMED AT LINKING BERLIN PROBLEMS AND BILATERAL RELATIONS SHOULD BE CAREFULLY SELECTED TO HAVE MAXIMAL IMPACT.

2. IN FOLLOWING SUCH AN ABOVE APPROACH, THE US, UK AND FRANCE SHOULD MAKE IT VERY CLEAR THAT ADDITIONAL MEASURES WOULD BE TAKEN IF THE GDR PERSISTS IN CAUSING PROBLEMS IN BERLIN. FOR THE PRESENT WE THINK THAT IT WOULD BE WISE TO WAIT AND SEE WHAT, IF ANY, EFFECT THE POSSIBLE POSTPONEMENT OF DE GUIRINGAUD'S VISIT, COULDED WITH OUR DELAY IN SCHEDULING A VISIT TO EAST BERLIN BY A RANKING DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL WILL HAVE IN TEMPERING THE GDR'S ACTIVITIES BEFORE CONSIDERING FURTHER SPECIFIC MEASURES.

3. FOR BERLIN: DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES VIEWS REPORTED IN BERLIN 5594 AND SUGGESTS YOU DRAW UPON ABOVE IN DISCUSSIONS WITH FRENCH AND BRITISH COUNTERPARTS IN EAST
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BERLIN .
CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, DETENTE, BERLIN QUADRIPARTITE MATTERS, STATUS OF BERLIN, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Event:
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